Queen Anne Cobblestone

The Newsletter of the Queen Anne Historical Society, Seattle, WA

March, 2007

Treat House Will Stay Says City Council

On Monday, March 5, the Seattle City Council, by an 8 to 1 vote, put an end to the ongoing uncertainty about the Treat House, at 1 West Highland Drive, by confirming the designation and controls on the house as a Seattle Landmark.

The Harry Whitney Treat house in 1907. Treat was a noted horseman.
Photo courtesy Patricia Treat Nichols.

The council, operating in a quasi-judicial hearing capacity, reviewed the Dec. 6 ruling of the City Hearing Examiner and voted approval. The Examiner in her ruling had affirmed the controls on the exterior of the house, but removed the controls on the interior in order to allow for better development returns to the owners.

This vote appears to have settled the issue of landmark designation, thus preserving the historical role of the building

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Top of the Hill Then and Now
Wed. Mar. 28th, 7:30 pm

We all make history, every day. Our surroundings on Queen Anne are changing rapidly, and they have changed every decade in the past also. This month's public program is a fascinating look at some of the changes on "The Top of the Hill—Then and Now". **Bruce Jones**, our Society's website manager and photo researcher, has put together a program of local photos from the past and from the present, using pictures from our archives and other area collections.

You may think you know our community pretty well—but you'll be surprised when you see some of these shots. If you too have photos of local scenes from the past, bring them with you for us to see. Maybe they can become part of a future program.

Join your neighbors at this fascinating public meeting!

Wednesday, Mar. 28, 2007, 7:30 pm

McClure Middle School Library
First Ave W. and W. Crockett St.

The meeting is free and open to the public. It begins at 7:30 pm at McClure Middle School library, 1915 1st Ave. West on Queen Anne. For more information, contact John Hennes at 206-284-2266.

"Dick's Place"—Do you know this former hangout and when it existed? QAHS *Photo*

Help Wanted!!

Our Society's operations are mostly handled by our Board members. We have been at this for a long time in some cases, and some of us are wearing out. Maybe you can help. In particular, our **Membership Chair, Nadine Frazier**, can no longer continue her job of keeping track of memberships and dues and sending thank you notes. This important and specific job can be done by hand, as it is now, or on a computer. Please consider lending your support to the Society by taking on this function.

Please give me a call to learn more. John Hennes, President, 284-2266

how to contact us:
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The *Queen Anne Cobblestone*™ is the official newsletter of the Queen Anne Historical Society. It is published five times a year by the Society, at PO Box 19432, Seattle, WA 98109-1432.

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The QAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by Federal law.

The Archives of the Society are located in Bayview Manor, 11 W. Aloha St., Seattle, WA 98119

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Calendar of Events

Wed. Mar. 28, 2007

Program: Then & Now Views of QA, by Bruce Jones. McClure Middle School Library, 7:30 pm. Free. (See p. 1)

Wed. May 23, 2007

Program: Children's Hospital Centennial (tentatively). Our Annual Meeting, McClure Middle School, 7:30 pm. Free.

Sat. June 2, 2007

School Event: Coe School Centennial, details still in work.

Sat. June 23, 2007

Walking Tour: The annual walking tour of Mt. Pleasant Cemetery. Time yet to be chosen. Free.

Preservation Status for 7th Church of Christ Scientist

The Society's Landmarks Preservation Chair, Char Eggleston, has continued to pursue parties interested in purchasing and landmarking this historic community church, in conjunction with an adaptive reuse project, in order to prevent its demolition. The applicant for the proposed demolition of the church and development of the underlying property stated, in an earlier email addressed to City Planner Catherine McCoy, that he would agree to opt out of the contract if another buyer could be found who wants to save the building. At the time, there was at least one other serious buyer who was prepared to make an offer if the building was determined to be structurally sound.

Seventh Church, 8th W. & W. Halliday

Todd Perbix, a principal of the consulting engineering firm Perbix Bykonen, agreed to do a structural assessment of the church on a *pro bono* basis. The Queen Anne Community Council drafted a letter to Church membership requesting access to the property in order that this structural assessment could be updated by Mr. Perbix's firm. However, church members voted on January 27 to deny the request. The Seattle City Department of Planning and Development subsequently approved the application for demolition of this historic building on Feb. 1.

The Queen Anne Historical Society, in conjunction with Queen Anne Neighbors for Responsible Growth, appealed the DPD decision on February 15, citing concerns regarding the current ownership status of the church as well as discrepancies in the SEPA (environmental) application and the DPD determination.

Four additional appeals have been filed by other parties, two addressing historic preservation issues and two addressing environmental issues. A pre-hearing conference was held at the City Hearing Examiner's office on March 6. All five appeals are currently scheduled to be heard by the Hearing Examiner on **April 18**. For further information regarding the appeal process, contact Char Eggleston, Landmarks/Preservation Chair, at 206-378-1618 or *char@qahistory.org*.

While the Society remains sympathetic to the church membership's need to expedite the pending sale of the property, we feel strongly that the church also has an obligation to the community to prevent the destruction of this historic structure if at all possible. We would like to thank the numerous members of the community who have offered their support in the effort to save this significant structure. Please refer to the Society's website**, www.qahistory.org**, for updates.

Our Mission Statement

The mission of the Queen Anne Historical Society is to record and preserve, in permanent form, the history of the settling of the Queen Anne community and to develop within the community an appreciation and concern for its history and its historical sites.

(Treat, Continued from page 1)
in the community. Further legal challenges can still be considered, but may require modifying the city's landmark legislation passed 30 years ago.

The Queen Anne Historical Society has been pursuing this preservation outcome for almost two years.

Dedicated efforts by Char Eggleston, our Landmarks Chair, along with Bruce Jones and Leanne Olson have brought about this result. Many heritage figures in this area have been sending us their congratulations and asking for advice about saving buildings in their own areas.

We want to thank all of our members and friends who have also lent their voices and their time to this effort. It took all of us to save this house. Your involvement makes the difference.

The issues of preservation and fair compensation are complicated. In this instance, at least, we believe all parties have been fairly treated and the community is better for it.

Heritage News

Goodbye Water Tower

By the time you see this, the QA Water Towers will be coming down. The two towers, built in 1901 and 1904, are being replaced by a single large tower with twice the capacity and seismically sound.

Water tower demolition begins.
Photo by John Hennes

The old tanks are now empty and the Queen Anne water system has been operating by pumping from the Lincoln Reservoir on Capitol Hill since mid-February. Work on a supplementary street water line and permanent pumping station to supply our hill's highest areas is also underway. This project will continue until summer of 2008. The loss of the landmarked 2001 tower is unfortunate, but necessary.

Society Website Expands

The QAHS website, on-line at **www.QAHistory.org**, has long been a portal to our local history and our society. If you have not checked it out recently, take a look.

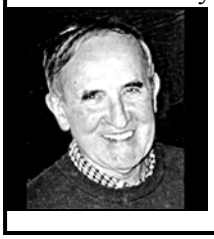
Now anyone can purchase our history book and sign up or renew a membership on-line.

Go to the web site and follow the links to buy a book or to become a member. The service is provided through PayPal, a secure third-party business.

While you're there, read the latest on the Seventh Church issue or browse some of the past writings and photos.

Murray Ferguson 1928—2007

The Society has lost one of its long time supporters with the death of Murray Ferguson Jan. 29th. Murray was a long-time member and was actively helping with the Treat nomination to the end. We shall all miss his friendly presence and his deep love of our history.



Spotlight on the Board
Nadine Frazier

We continue with another of our spotlights on Society board members.

Born and raised on Queen Anne, Nadine Blackford Frazier has been a member of QAHS since 1982. She attended St. Nicholas school and graduated from Queen Anne High School.

She lives in a condo in lower Queen Anne with her husband, Bob Frazier, whom she married in August 2004 to the joy of all their many friends.

Nadine Frazier

Her grandmother was married to Capt. James Griffiths, who owned the Stimson house on W. Highland Drive. She remembers playing in the ballroom there, which bounced nicely as the floor was built on springs.

Nadine is the mother of three and has been a volunteer at Children's Orthopedic Hospital and other places. She has been a long and active member of the Queen Anne United Methodist Church.

Nadine has served as Society Vice President in the past, but for many years has been the Society's Membership Chair and the familiar face new members see at our meetings. She is stepping down from this role for a well-deserved rest.

Yes, I want to join the Queen Anne Historical Society in preserving our community's heritage and promoting the public's understanding of its past.

Name _____ Tel. _____

Address_____

City _____, State _____ Zip_____

E-mail _____

Member Category: (check one)

___ Individual	$15	___ Patron	$50 - $199
___ Family	$20	___ Benefactor	$200 & up
___ Student/Senior	$8	___ Contribution only, $_____	

___ I would like to become active in the Society.

The QAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
Donations are deductible to the extent permitted by Federal law.

Return with payment to: *Queen Anne Historical Society, PO Box 19432, Seattle, WA 98109-1432*

I want to order the Society's book, *Queen Anne—Community on the Hill*.
I understand that mailing costs will be added.

Prices are:
Soft cover: $25
($20 for members)
Hard cover: $45
($40 for members)

Please send me the following:
Soft cover qty:____
Soft cover cost: $_____
Hard cover qty:____
Hard cover cost: $_____
Mailing costs at $3/book: _____
Total Cost: $_____

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***Coming up*: Now & Then Photo Review of QA, at the Wed. Mar. 24th program at McClure, 7:30 pm. Story page 1.**

Kim's Musings

White Death, Moving Down the Mountain

It's easier to view the results of someone else's research than to do it oneself. Yet, time and again I find I am literally "caught up" by the joy of the chase. The treasure I seek is more intangible than gold or silver, but it proves to me to be just as valuable.

Take the recent book talk at Elliott Bay Book Company. Author Gary Krist, who has written in several genres, was there on Tuesday, February 27th, to discuss his newest book, "The White Cascade." This is his latest, and certainly a most fascinating read. This account of the March 1, 1910 Wellington Avalanche was first recounted by Washington author Ruby El Hult, who also wrote "The Untamed Olympics," and "Lost Mines and Treasures of the Pacific Northwest." Her book, "Northwest Disasters," published in 1960, covered the Wellington Avalanche and the Bitterroot Mountain Fires of 1910, both of which took many lives.

It was good to learn from author Krist that Ruby is still living, and has moved back to Washington State after a lengthy sojourn in California. I had reason to correspond with her back in the early 1980s regarding another work of hers, "Guns of the Lewis and Clark Expedition," as another local bookman was interested in that topic and didn't know how to contact her. The key that ties this to Queen Anne? Our Mount Pleasant Cemetery has numerous graves of victims of that 1910 avalanche.

At Krist's talk I met descendants from both survivors and victims of the avalanche, one of whom gave me the name of another victim who is buried here, but of whose grave we were totally unaware. This June's cemetery tour will revolve around this specific tragedy and share more than a few stories with you of the courage and miraculous survival of some of those involved.

I was brought to consider all this as the snow began to hit central Puget Sound on Thursday, and the loss of the skier who took the wrong trail this week, losing his life in an avalanche. It is a beautiful land in which we live, but it can be unforgiving to the careless.

I hope you will enjoy the March program as much as I intend to, as I got to see a "sneak preview" the other night, and found it absolutely stunning. You will understand when you attend. On another note, the doctors have given me a go-ahead for surgery, as my blood pressure is back to normal and I am losing weight (but why doesn't it show in the mirror?)

Kim R. Turner, Researcher, QAHS

**Isn't it time you became more involved with the Queen Anne Historical Society?
Join the Board of Trustees! Help out in the archives! Call John Hennes at (206) 284-2266
for more details about how you can share in making and keeping Queen Anne's history.**